

In the Claims

1           1.     [Original] A method comprising:  
2                 determining, by a processor within a peripheral device, that an amount of a  
3 consumable associated with the peripheral device has decreased below a  
4 predetermined threshold; and  
5                 transmitting an email from the peripheral device to order additional supplies of  
6 the consumable.

1           2.     [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting comprises  
2 transmitting the email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1           3.     [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting comprises  
2 transmitting the email to a personal computer associated with the peripheral device,  
3 and further comprising transmitting a second email from the personal computer to a  
4 vendor web site across a firewall.

1           4.     [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device  
2 comprises a hard copy output engine and determining comprises determining when a  
3 toner level in the hard copy output engine has decreased below a toner low  
4 threshold.

1           5.     [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device  
2 comprises a hard copy output engine, and further comprising:  
3                 determining, by the processor within the hard copy output engine, when a  
4 predetermined work threshold has been reached; and  
5                 transmitting an email to request periodic service in response to determining.

1           6.     [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device  
2 comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises an embedded  
3 web server, and further comprising:  
4                 determining, by the web server, when a predetermined work threshold has  
5 been reached; and  
6                 transmitting an email to request periodic service in response to determining.

1           7.     [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device  
2 comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises an embedded  
3 web server, wherein determining comprises determining when a toner level in a hard  
4 copy output engine has decreased below a toner low threshold and wherein  
5 transmitting comprises transmitting the email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1           8.     [Original] An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable  
2 medium having computer readable code embodied therein that is configured to  
3 cause a processor contained in a peripheral device to:  
4           determine that an amount of a consumable associated with the peripheral  
5 device has decreased below a predetermined threshold; and  
6           transmit an email from the peripheral device to order additional supplies of the  
7 consumable.

1           9.     [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the computer  
2 readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device  
3 to transmit the email comprises computer readable code configured to cause the  
4 processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit the email to a vendor web  
5 site across a firewall.

1           10.    [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the computer  
2 readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device  
3 to transmit comprises computer readable code configured to cause the processor  
4 contained in the peripheral device to transmit the email to a personal computer  
5 associated with the peripheral device for retransmission from the personal computer  
6 to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1           11.    [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the peripheral  
2 device comprises a hard copy output engine and wherein the computer readable  
3 code configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to  
4 determine comprises computer readable code configured to cause the processor  
5 contained in the peripheral device to determine when a toner level in the hard copy  
6 output engine has decreased below a toner low threshold.

1           12. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the peripheral  
2 device comprises a hard copy output engine, and wherein the computer readable  
3 code configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to  
4 determine comprises computer readable code configured to cause the processor  
5 contained in the hard copy output engine to determine when a predetermined work  
6 threshold has been reached and the computer readable code configured to cause the  
7 processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit comprises computer  
8 readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the hard copy output  
9 engine to transmit an email to request periodic service in response to reaching the  
10 predetermined work threshold.

1           13. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the peripheral  
2 device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises an  
3 embedded web server and further comprising computer readable code configured to  
4 cause the embedded web server to:  
5           determine when a predetermined work threshold has been reached; and  
6           transmit an email to request periodic service in response to reaching the  
7 predetermined work threshold.

1           14. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein the peripheral  
2 device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises an  
3 embedded web server and wherein the computer readable code configured to cause  
4 the processor contained in the peripheral device to determine comprises computer  
5 readable code configured to cause the embedded web server to determine when a  
6 toner level in a hard copy output engine has decreased below a toner low threshold  
7 and wherein the computer readable code configured to cause the processor  
8 contained in the peripheral device to transmit comprises computer readable code  
9 configured to cause the embedded web server to transmit the email to a vendor web  
10 site across a firewall.

1           15. [Original] A computer implemented control system for a hard copy  
2 output engine, the system comprising:  
3           memory configured to store a software module; and  
4           processing circuitry configured to employ the software module to:  
5                 determine that an amount of a consumable associated with a  
6 peripheral device has decreased below a predetermined threshold; and  
7                 transmit an email from the peripheral device to order additional  
8 supplies of the consumable.

1           16. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,  
2 wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to employ the software module  
3 to:  
4           determine that an amount of a consumable associated with the peripheral  
5 device has decreased below a predetermined threshold; and  
6           transmit an email from the peripheral device to order additional supplies of the  
7 consumable.

1           17. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,  
2 wherein the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and wherein the  
3 processing circuitry and memory together comprise an embedded web server, and  
4 the embedded web server is further configured to:  
5           determine when a toner level in the hard copy output engine has decreased  
6 below a toner low threshold; and  
7           transmit an email across a firewall to a vendor web site to order additional  
8 toner in response to determining.

1           18. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,  
2 wherein the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and wherein the  
3 processing circuitry and memory together comprise an embedded web server, and  
4 the embedded web server is further configured to transmit the email to a personal  
5 computer associated with the peripheral device for retransmission from the personal  
6 computer to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1           19. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,  
2 wherein the peripheral device is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile  
3 machines, photocopiers and printers and wherein the processing circuitry and  
4 memory together comprise an embedded web server.

1           20. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,  
2 wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to employ the software module  
3 to:

4           determine when a predetermined work threshold has been reached; and  
5           transmit an email to request periodic service in response to reaching the  
6 predetermined work threshold.

1           21. [Original] A computer instruction signal embodied in a carrier wave  
2 carrying instructions that when executed by a processor cause the processor to:

3           determine that an amount of a consumable associated with the peripheral  
4 device has decreased below a predetermined threshold; and

5           transmit an email from the peripheral device to order additional supplies of the  
6 consumable.

1           22. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the  
2 computer instruction signal configured to cause the processor contained in the  
3 peripheral device to transmit the email comprises a computer instruction signal  
4 configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit the  
5 email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1           23. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the  
2 computer instruction signal configured to cause the processor contained in the  
3 peripheral device to transmit comprises a computer instruction signal configured to  
4 cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit the email to a  
5 personal computer associated with the peripheral device for retransmission from the  
6 personal computer to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1           24. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the  
2 peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and wherein the computer  
3 instruction signal configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral  
4 device to determine comprises a computer instruction signal configured to cause the  
5 processor contained in the peripheral device to determine when a toner level in the  
6 hard copy output engine has decreased below a toner low threshold.

1           25. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the  
2 peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine, and wherein the computer  
3 instruction signal configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral  
4 device to determine comprises a computer instruction signal configured to cause the  
5 processor contained in the hard copy output engine to determine when a  
6 predetermined work threshold has been reached and the computer instruction signal  
7 configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit  
8 comprises a computer instruction signal configured to cause the processor contained  
9 in the hard copy output engine to transmit an email to request periodic service in  
10 response to reaching the predetermined work threshold.

1           26. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the  
2 peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises  
3 an embedded web server and further comprising a computer instruction signal  
4 configured to cause the embedded web server to:  
5           determine when a predetermined work threshold has been reached; and  
6           transmit an email to request periodic service in response to reaching the  
7 predetermined work threshold.

1           27. [Original] The computer instruction signal of claim 21, wherein the  
2 peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor comprises  
3 an embedded web server and wherein the computer instruction signal configured to  
4 cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to determine comprises a  
5 computer instruction signal configured to cause the embedded web server to  
6 determine when a toner level in a hard copy output engine has decreased below a  
7 toner low threshold and wherein the computer instruction signal configured to cause

8 the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit comprises a computer  
9 instruction signal configured to cause the embedded web server to transmit the  
10 email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 28. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the email is  
2 communicated directly from the peripheral device to a vendor of the supplies of the  
3 consumable.

1 29. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 5, wherein the  
2 transmitting the email comprises transmitting the email directly from the peripheral  
3 device to a provider that performs the periodic service.

1 30. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 7, wherein the vendor  
2 web site comprises a vendor of the supplies of the consumable.

1 31. [New] The method of claim 1, wherein the transmitting comprises  
2 transmitting responsive to the determining.

1 32. [New] The method of claim 31, wherein the email is communicated  
2 directly from the peripheral device to a vendor of the supplies of the consumable.

1 33. [New] The method of claim 1, wherein the transmitting is initiated  
2 using the processor within the peripheral device.

1 34. [New] The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein  
2 the processing circuitry is configured to transmit the email responsive to the  
3 determination.

1 35. [New] The computer implemented control system of claim 34, wherein  
2 the processing circuitry is configured to initiate direct communication of the email to  
3 a vendor of the supplies of the consumable.